

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KOHEI KATO ET AL.

Serial No.: NOT YET ASSIGNED

Filed: AUGUST 31, 2001

Title: MULTI-LEAF COLLIMATOR AND MEDICAL SYSTEM INCLUDING ACCELERATOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims prior to the examination of the application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3, 8 and 9 as follows:

(A copy of the marked-up version of the amended claims are attached to this Preliminary Amendment).

3. (Amended) A multi-leaf collimator according to Claim 1, wherein each of said leaf plate driving body further comprises holding means capable of abutting against the leaf plates to hold the leaf plates in stationary positions.

8. (Amended) A medical system including an accelerator according to Claim 4, further comprising control means for

controlling said one driving means and said driving force transmitting means.

9. (Amended) A medical system including an accelerator according to Claim 5, further comprising control means for controlling said one driving force generating means and said engaging/disengaging means.

Please add new claims 10-12 as follows:

10. (New) A multi-leaf collimator according to Claim 2, wherein each of said leaf plate driving body further comprises holding means capable of abutting against the leaf plates to hold the leaf plates in stationary positions.

11. (New) A medical system including an accelerator according to Claim 6, further comprising control means for controlling said one driving means and said driving force transmitting means.

12. (New) A medical system including an accelerator according to Claim 7, further comprising control means for controlling said one driving force generating means and said engaging/disengaging means.

REMARKS

Entry of the amendments to the claims before examination of the application is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Crowell & Moring, LLP, Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381KA/50339).

Respectfully submitted,

August 31, 2001



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Please amend claims 3, 8 and 9 as follows:

3. (Amended) A multi-leaf collimator according to Claim 1 [or 2], wherein each of said leaf plate driving body further comprises holding means capable of abutting against the leaf plates to hold the leaf plates in stationary positions.

8. (Amended) A medical system including an accelerator according to Claim 4 [or 6], further comprising control means for controlling said one driving means and said driving force transmitting means.

9. (Amended) A medical system including an accelerator according to Claim 5 [or 7], further comprising control means for controlling said one driving force generating means and said engaging/disengaging means.